**American Government**

**Study Guide – Congress and the Presidency**

**10-27-2012**

***Congress***

Terms:

bicameral commerce power perjury quorum

session expressed power impeach filibuster

term implied power subpoena bill

franking privilege copyright deficit financing

gerrymandering eminent domain concurrent resolution

prorogue patent joint resolution

re-apportion Necessary and Proper Clause rider

inherent power censure cloture

Main Ideas:

1. What are the formal qualification for a U.S. Representative and Senator? Terms?

2. Why did Framers favor a bicameral Congress?

3. What is the difference between a term and a session?

4. What is a special session?

5. What is the size of the House of Representatives?

6. What is reapportionment?

7. Be able to describe a: single member district, at large representation.

8. What is the goal of gerrymandering? What is the outcome of Wesberry v.

Sanders?

9. What is the procedure for elections in the House and Senate?

10. What are the characteristics of Congressmen voting as: a delegate, a trustee, a

partisan, and a politico?

11. What do we mean by “floor consideration”?

12. What is the oversight function of Congress?

13. What compensation are enjoyed by members of Congress?

14. What is a tax and what are the limits on the taxing power of Congress?

15. What is bankruptcy? Legal tender?

16. What are the congressional war powers?

17. What is the difference between a liberal and strict constructionist?

18. What are the Limits on Commerce Power?

19. What are the electoral duties given to Congress?

20. What part does Congress play in impeachment?

21. What executive powers does the Constitution give to the Senate?

22. Who are the presiding officers of the House and Senate?

23. What is the difference between a standing committee, select committee, joint

committee, conference committee?

24. How does a bill become a law? Know joint resolution, concurrent resolution,

simple resolution, pigeonholed, discharge petition.

25. What action may a president take on a bill?

26. The legislative power of the United States is vested in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

***The President***

1. What are the formal qualifications to be president?

2. Executive power is vested in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?

3. What is the length of a presidential term?

4. How long may a president serve by law?

5. What compensation does the president enjoy?

6. What is the line of succession according to the Presidential Succession Act of

1947?

7. What are the provisions in the case of presidential disability?

8. What is the importance of the office of vice-president and the duties ascribed?

9. What is the electoral college? What is the minimum number of electoral votes

a candidate needs to win the Presidency?

10. What does the 12th Amendment provide?

11. What are the means of choosing delegates to the national conventions for both

parties?

12. What are the flaws in the Electoral College? What reforms have been

proposed?

13. What are the arguments used in defense of the Electoral College?

14. What is ordinace power, appointment power, removal power as enjoyed by the

president?

15. What is executive privilege?

16. What power does the president have as Commander in Chief?

17. What veto power does the president enjoy? What is the line-item veto?

18. Veto power is an example of what safeguards in a democracy?

19. What judicial powers does the president possess? Know the following terms:

reprieve, pardon, clemency, commutation, amnesty.

20. What is the difference between a staff agency and a line agency?

21. What is the Cabinet’s role? How are Cabinet member chosen?

22. What is a treaty? How is it approved?

23. What is an executive agreement?

24. The framers called for the President to be elected by what means?